



**STATE OF DELAWARE**  
**Child Death, Near Death and Stillbirth Commission**

**August 17, 2007**

**FINAL MINUTES**

**Meeting Date and Time:** August 17, 2007, 1:00 PM

**Meeting Location:** Appoquinimink State Service Center  
Large Conference Room, Middletown, DE

**In Attendance:**

- **Commissioners**  
Dr. Garrett H.C. Colmorgen, Mr. C. Malcolm Cochran, Ms. Tania M. Culley, Ms. Marjorie Hershberger, Dr. Kathy A. Janvier, Dr. Lani L. Nelson-Zlupko, Dr. Jaime G.H. Rivera, and Dr. Philip Shlossman
- **Proxies**  
Mr. Stuart Mast for (Secretary Cari DeSantis), Ms. Rebecca G. Laster for (Ms. Karen DeRasmo), Deputy Secretary Nancy Wilson for (Secretary Valerie Woodruff), Ms. Patricia Dailey Lewis for (Attorney General Joseph R. "Beau" Biden), Ms. Patricia Ciranni for (Ms. Sharon Painter), Ms. Oluyemi Olowu for (Dr. Wendy Sturtz), Ms. Lisa Schieffert for (Secretary Vincent P. Meconi), Sgt Randy Fisher for (Col. Thomas Macleish) Judge Joelle Hitch for (Chief Judge Chandlee J. Kuhn)
- **Staff**  
Anne Pedrick, MS, Executive Director  
Joan Kelley, RN, FIMR Coordinator  
Michael A. Brown, Office Manager

**Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 PM by Commission Chair, Dr. Garrett H.C. Colmorgen. A quorum was established with 17 members present.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Minutes**

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the minutes for the May 4, 2007 meeting and the Executive Session were unanimously approved.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the minutes for the June 1, 2007 meeting were approved with one change.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Executive Director Report:**

**Personnel Update:** The Executive Director introduced Islanda Finamore as the new Child Death Review Specialist. Islanda will begin in her position with the CDNDSC on 9/4/07.

**Panel/Commission Vacancies:** Based on the vote by the Commission, Leslie Newman's name was forwarded to the Governor and we are waiting for confirmation of her appointment to the Commission. There is also a vacancy on the K/S Panel due to the resignation of the NASW.

**CDNDSC database (FIMR and CDR):** BASINET, which is the project data management system for FIMR (fetal and infant mortality review) and the National Data Tool for the Child Death review will manage all of the CDNDSC data as of July 1, 2007. The Judicial Information Center and the Department of Technology and Information approved the program and the BASINET system was modified further to make it even more secure and confidential. The system is more secure than an online banking system. All staff will participate in BASINET training starting 9/5/2007. BASINET is currently being used by 20 states that have a FIMR program. The reviews given by the current users unanimously state it is a great database. Both systems will streamline the production of the annual report for FY08.

**Annual Report:** The Annual Report has been started but there is a lot of manual work (such as pulling individual files) due to the current database capability. The scope of the report has been changed due to a missing part of FY 2003 in the last Commission report that was done. The new consolidated report will go from FY 03 – FY 07 with the inclusion of the charts and graphs this will allow us to show a five year comparison.

**Fetal Infant Mortality Review:** FIMR has started recruiting members for their Wilmington case review team (CRT). Training will take place on October 17, 2007 with the actual CRT meetings taking place on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of every month beginning November 19, 2007. FIMR is still recruiting members and have received a very good response from potential candidates. Due to the high infant mortality within Wilmington,

it was important to have the 3<sup>rd</sup> CRT focus on the community systemic issues. The Memorandum of Understanding between FIMR and Division of Public Health was signed. The maternal interviewer continues to do interviews and she completed two this week.

A trend that is being expressed by some of the mothers during their interview is that their concerns are not validated when expressed to various medical professionals. In three different interviews mothers stated that they felt put down or diminished because of their age. This is the kind of information that needs to be tracked for systemic education and reform. BASINET will be able to capture this data. The FIMR staff along with the Executive Director attended the National FIMR Conference in Arlington, VA. Many individuals were impressed with the CDNDSC statute and that it contains subpoena power and that we were able to acquire BASINET in such a short period of time. The maternal interviewer attended the two day bereavement training in Philadelphia and the FIMR staff attended the Infant Mortality Conference in Dover.

The Executive Director has met with the Budget Controller within the Judiciary to request a 24, 000 dollar increase which is based upon the Governor's Infant Mortality Task Force previous recommendations. The taskforce report suggested this increase for FY 07, but the Executive Director did not put this forth to the legislature since FIMR had not yet been implemented. The funding would go towards a per diem RN to complete medical abstractions and a translation service for maternal interviews.

Safe Sleeping Campaign: The Delaware SIDS affiliate awarded a grant (developed by Marjorie Hershberger, MS, APRN) to the Child Death, Near Death and Stillbirth Commission (CDNDSC) to promote this campaign. Egendorf Morrison, Creative Marketing Services developed the ads after meeting with the subcommittee at the end of April. Public Service Announcements were recorded at no cost from B101 as a community project and sent to the local Delaware Valley radio stations. As a result of the collaboration with B101, Anne Pedrick was interviewed for a 30 minute segment on safe sleeping practices for the Women's File on B101.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously decided to enter Executive Session at 1:20 PM.

Upon return to public session, a motion was duly made and seconded and unanimously approved to adjourn at 2:53 PM.